

IN THE CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A method in a data processing system for automatically configuring IP security tunnels, said method comprising the steps of:
exchanging identification data with a remote computer system;
determining, based on the identification data, whether a predefined security policy exists
corresponding to the remote computer system;
~~establishing~~ selecting a security policy specification format capable of being utilized by a plurality of different operating systems and a plurality of different machine types if a predefined security policy is absent; and
defining a configuration of an IP security tunnel between the data processing system and the remote computer system utilizing said security policy specification format.
2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
establishing a security policy specification format capable of being utilized by a plurality of different operating systems and a plurality of different machine types; and
~~the step of~~ establishing said security policy specification format as a DTD file.
3. (Original) The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of including a plurality of different elements in said DTD file, each of said plurality of different elements being utilized to configure an IP security tunnel.
4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, further comprising the steps of:
generating an XML file utilizing a plurality of said plurality of different elements included within said DTD file; and
processing said XML file to automatically configure an IP security tunnel.
5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of including a root element in said security policy specification format.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of establishing a protection element in said security policy specification format, said protection element including a listing of IKE transforms.
7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of establishing a transform element in said security policy specification format.
8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of establishing a group element in said security policy specification format.
9. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of establishing an identification element in said security policy specification format.
10. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of establishing a tunnel element in said security policy specification format.
11. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of establishing a root element, a protection element, a transform element, a group element, an identification element, a tunnel element, a local/remote identify element, an ID type element, an ID definition element, a pre-shared key element, an IPsec proposal element, an IPsec ESP protocol element, an IPsec authentication header element, and an IPsec protection element in said security policy specification format.
12. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of automatically configuring an IP security tunnel utilizing said security policy specification format.
13. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of comparing a first IP security tunnel to a second IP security tunnel utilizing a first security policy specification format that is associated with said first IP security tunnel and a second security policy specification format that is associated with a second IP security tunnel.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising:
a computer usable medium having computer usable program code for defining a configuration of IP security tunnels, comprising:
computer usable program code for exchanging identification data with a remote computer system;
computer usable program code for determining, based on the identification data, whether a predefined security policy exists corresponding to the remote computer system;
computer usable program code for ~~establishing~~ selecting a security policy specification format capable of being utilized by a plurality of different operating systems and a plurality of different machine types if a predefined security policy is absent;
computer usable program code for automatically configuring an IP security tunnel between the data processing system and the remote computer system utilizing said security policy specification format.
15. (Currently Amended) The product according to claim 14, further comprising:
computer usable program code for establishing a security policy specification format capable of being utilized by a plurality of different operating systems and a plurality of different machine types; and
computer usable program code for establishing said security policy specification format as a DTD file.
16. (Previously Presented) The product according to claim 14, further comprising computer usable program code for including a plurality of different elements in said DTD file, each of said plurality of different elements being utilized to configure an IP security tunnel.
17. (Previously Presented) The product according to claim 16, further comprising:
computer usable program code for generating an XML file utilizing a plurality of said plurality of different elements included within said DTD file; and
computer usable program code for processing said XML file to automatically configure an IP security tunnel.

18. (Previously Presented) The product according to claim 14, further comprising computer usable program code for including a root element in said security policy specification format.
19. (Previously Presented) The product according to claim 14, further comprising computer usable program code for establishing a protection element in said security policy specification format, said protection element including a listing of IKE transforms.
20. (Previously Presented) The product according to claim 14, further comprising computer usable program code for establishing a transform element in said security policy specification format.
21. (Previously Presented) The product according to claim 14, further comprising computer usable program code for establishing a group element in said security policy specification format.
22. (Previously Presented) The product according to claim 14, further comprising computer usable program code for establishing an identification element in said security policy specification format.
23. (Previously Presented) The product according to claim 14, further comprising computer usable program code for establishing a tunnel element in said security policy specification format.
24. (Previously Presented) The product according to claim 14, further comprising computer usable program code for establishing a root element, a protection element, a transform element, a group element, an identification element, a tunnel element, a local/remote identify element, an ID type element, an ID definition element, a pre-shared key element, an IPsec proposal element, an IPsec ESP protocol element, an IPsec authentication header element, and an IPsec protection element in said security policy specification format.

25. (Previously Presented) The product according to claim 14, further comprising computer usable program code for automatically configuring an IP security tunnel utilizing said security policy specification format.

26. (Previously Presented) The product according to claim 14, further comprising computer usable program code for comparing a first IP security tunnel to a second IP security tunnel utilizing a first security policy specification format that is associated with said first IP security tunnel and a second security policy specification format that is associated with a second IP security tunnel.

27. (Currently Amended) A data processing system for automatically configuring IP security tunnels, comprising:

a computer;

a computer readable medium containing computer readable instructions, wherein the computer executes the computer readable instructions to exchange identification data with a remote computer system; determine whether a predefined security policy exists corresponding to the remote computer system; and select a security policy specification format capable of being utilized by a plurality of different operating systems and a plurality of different machine types if a predefined security policy is absent; and

said system for automatically configuring an IP security tunnel between the data processing system and the remote computer system utilizing said security policy specification format.

28. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 27, further comprising:

a security policy specification format capable of being utilized by a plurality of different operating systems and a plurality of different machine types being established; and

said security policy specification format being established as a DTD file.

29. (Original) The system according to claim 28, further comprising a plurality of different elements being included in said DTD file, each of said plurality of different elements being utilized to configure an IP security tunnel.

30. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 29, further comprising:
an XML file being generated utilizing a plurality of said plurality of different elements included within said DTD file; and
said system for processing said XML file to automatically configure an IP security tunnel.
31. (Original) The system according to claim 27, further comprising a root element being included in said security policy specification format.
32. (Original) The system according to claim 27, further comprising a protection element being included in said security policy specification format, said protection element including a listing of IKE transforms.
33. (Original) The system according to claim 27, further comprising a transform element being included in said security policy specification format.
34. (Original) The system according to claim 27, further comprising a group element being included in said security policy specification format.
35. (Original) The system according to claim 27, further comprising an identification element being included in said security policy specification format.
36. (Original) The system according to claim 27, further comprising a tunnel element being included in said security policy specification format.
37. (Original) The system according to claim 27, further comprising a root element, a protection element, a transform element, a group element, an identification element, a tunnel element, a local/remote identify element, an ID type element, an ID definition element, a pre-shared key element, an IPsec proposal element, an IPsec ESP protocol element, an IPsec authentication header element, and an IPsec protection element being included in said security policy specification format.

38. (Original) The system according to claim 27, further comprising said system for automatically configuring an IP security tunnel utilizing said security policy specification format.

39. (Original) The system according to claim 27, further comprising said system for comparing a first IP security tunnel to a second IP security tunnel utilizing a first security policy specification format that is associated with said first IP security tunnel and a second security policy specification format that is associated with a second IP security tunnel.